



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of  
Peter BECHMANN  
Serial No.: 10/026,323  
Filed: December 18, 2001

New York, New York  
Date: September 10, 2002  
Group Art Unit: 2632  
Examiner: --

For: LOAD MONITORING TEST DEVICE FOR A PATIENT'S FOOT

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Submitted herewith is a copy of a search report issued by a patent searching authority other than the PTO and the cited art together with a form listing the same for the convenience of the Examiner.

In this Search Report a single prior art document has been cited, namely German Publication DE 196 25 474 A1, a copy of which is enclosed. This publication refers to a load sensor which comprises a pressure sensor 8, 8a, 8b which is to be placed under the heel of a patient's foot for monitoring a predetermined pressure load. The pressure sensor comprises at least one spring element 8 which is designed as a Belleville spring washer or disk spring having a central dome-shaped portion which under the load of the patient's foot will be elastically deformed, and provides an audible signal. The disk spring as disclosed in this document acts more or less in the same manner as the so-called click spring described in U.S. Patent No. 6,031,463 and referred to on page 2 of the specification as background art of the present invention.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail #EL157415609US in an envelope addressed to: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on September 10, 2002:

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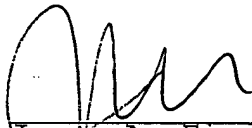
Signature

September 10, 2002

Date of Signature

JAF:mcm  
Enclosures

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